

ST. LOUIS METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INTRA DEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM

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DATE: January 19th, 2000

TO: MAJOR ROY JOACHIMSTALER, COMMANDER
Bureau of Patrol Support

FROM: SGT. VINCENT STEHLIN, OP PLNG
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

TOPIC: Department of Energy Hearings re: Nuclear Waste Shipments

COPIES: Capt. David Dorn, Deputy Commander BPS
Jeri Maples, BPS Staff

Sir:

Attached is an article that appeared in the Post Dispatch, January 17, 2000, outlining the shipping of nuclear reactor waste to Yucca Mountain, Nevada. The Department of Energy will be conducting hearings on this matter on Thursday, January 20th. The hearings will be conducted at America's Center. Two sessions will be conducted: 11am-2pm and 6pm-10pm.

As indicated in the article the DOE is planning the movement of 88,000 tons of highly radioactive material over highways and rail lines. I did some additional research on the article with the Dallas Morning News and the State of Nevada. (See attached items)

The transportation routes in St. Louis would be I-70 and the various rail lines that cross the bridge at the foot of Cerrie (4th District). Although the earliest the facility will be built is 2015, there are long range planning issues that need to be addressed.

As you are aware I am the Department's representative to the St. Louis Local Emergency Planning Committee (Sara Title III, Community Hazardous Materials Awareness), I have a dual responsibility.

The LEPC and I have some concerns that we will be expressing at the hearing. The following six (6) items will be brought to the committee's attention that both we (SLMPD and the LEPC) have concerns and want consideration given for our community:

1. Has the DOE conducted the necessary HAZARD ANALYSIS, VULNERABILITY ANALYSIS and RISK ASSESSMENT in the City of St. Louis for the rail and highway routes identified in the newspaper article? If so, can we obtain a copy of that assessment. If not, will the assessment be conducted and will the City of St. Louis receive a copy of the assessment and/or be a part of the assessment team?
2. Verification on the highway routes and specific rail lines to be used for the transportation of

2 cont.

nuclear waste shipments. The SLMPD, SLFD and City of St. Louis Public Safety need to be involved in the planning.

- 3 3. What quantities of nuclear waste will be shipped via highway and on rail shipments? What is the quantity per shipment? What do the vehicles look like (trailer and rail) and what safety precautions will be taken to the transportation vehicles?
- 4 4. The Federal Register indicates training available for first responders. What level of training would be conducted for Fire, Police, EMS and Emergency Management Personnel as part of a preparedness mode? What if any metering devices and special equipment would be available to first responders should an incident occur?
- 5 5. Are there any plans for Orientation, Table Top, Functional or Full Scale exercises for the City of St. Louis and surrounding communities in Missouri as a means to prepare for the shipments?
- 6 6. As part of the pre-planning process will the DOE provide the necessary planning mechanism, material safety data sheets and levels of personal protection equipment to the Local Emergency Planning Committee's for distribution to First Responders?
- 7 7. What regulations are in place to ensure the physical protection of the spent fuel shipments during transportation, transportation accidents, and possible acts of terrorism?

These are several questions that I will be asking the commission. Addition information may also be asked after input from Board Members of the City of St. Louis Local Emergency Planning Commission.

Respectfully,

SGT. VINCENT STEHLIN
SLMPD BPS Operational Planning